

## The Supreme Court of South Carolina commission on Judicial conduct

Deborah S. McKeown Commission Counsel 1220 Senate Street, Suite 305 Columbia, South Carolina 29201 Telephone: (803) 734-1965 Fax: (803) 734-0363

June 25, 2018

## PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Desa Ballard, Esquire Ballard & Watson, Attorneys at Law Post Office Box 6338 West Columbia, SC 29171-6338

RE:

NOTICE OF FINAL DISPOSITION
The Honorable Robert E. Hood
Matter Number: 18-DE-J-0064

Dear Ms. Ballard:

You previously filed a complaint with the Commission on Judicial Conduct about The Honorable Robert E. Hood in connection with the above-referenced matter. The Commission instructed the Office of Disciplinary Counsel to conduct an investigation into your allegations.

On June 22, 2018, an investigative panel of the Commission convened to consider the recommendation of the Disciplinary Counsel for disposition of this matter based on the information gathered in the investigation. As required by the Rules for Judicial Disciplinary Enforcement, Rule 502, SCACR, the inquiries of the panel were limited to whether or not there was evidence of ethical misconduct on the part of Judge Hood that would warrant further investigation or the filing of formal charges.

After considering the information received from you, Judge Hood's response, and the report of Disciplinary Counsel setting forth the results of the investigation, the investigative panel voted to dismiss your complaint. At the direction of the Commission, I am notifying you of the action taken by the Commission on this matter. This dismissal constitutes a final disposition of your complaint.

Desa Ballard, Esquire June 25, 2018 Page Two

As required by the rules, Judge Hood and the Disciplinary Counsel are being notified of the action taken by the investigative panel by copy of this letter.

Sincerely,

Jody W. Helham Jody W. Gilham

Administrative Assistant

JWG/

cc: The Honorable Robert E. Hood

Joseph P. Turner Jr., Esquire Senior Assistant Disciplinary Counsel